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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

**31 MAY 2018**

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#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### **(U) Los Angeles – 142 Charged in LA Crackdown on Illegal Marijuana Businesses**

(U) Prosecutors have brought the first criminal charges against 142 people as they aim to tamp down the growing illegal marijuana market in Los Angeles since the state legalized recreational use in January, officials said yesterday. The charges involve employees of 32 commercial cannabis companies and a business that delivers marijuana, said City Attorney Mike Feuer. Recreational cannabis businesses must be licensed by both the city and state. So far, only 147 city licenses have been issued to sell adult-use, recreational cannabis in Los Angeles. Many illegal marijuana shops operate in plain sight — out of storefronts in busy neighborhoods.

SOURCE: 30 May 2018, [The Sacramento Bee](#)

#### (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

##### **(U) Arizona – National Guard Making Impact on Southwest Border**

(U) Nogales — The National Guard has been assisting the Border Patrol on the US–Mexico border supporting operations since early April and has contributed to more than 4,500 arrests, according to Customs and Border Protection numbers. Around 6,500 pounds of illicit drugs have been seized during the same period. More than 200 National Guardsmen have been deployed to the Tucson Sector, in which Nogales sits, and most of them are in the Nogales area.

SOURCE: 30 May 2018, [The Epoch Times](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### **(U) Alaska – Inmates Are Getting Jailed Intentionally to Smuggle Drugs**

(U) Anchorage — Charges announced this week highlight what Alaska prison officials say is a chronic problem: Some people are intentionally getting sent to jail for short stints in order to smuggle in and sell drugs at a huge markup to a hungry, captive audience. The US Attorney's office said yesterday it had filed charges against Steven Cao, Brandon Beltz, Allyson Moore and Jennifer Delossantos on drug conspiracy, attempting to give an inmate a prohibited object and firearms charges. Cao was a federal prisoner being held at the Anchorage Correctional Complex on methamphetamine distribution charges in late 2017 and early 2018 when he conspired with the others to smuggle subutex into the jail, according to the charges.

SOURCE: 30 May 2018, [Anchorage Daily News](#)

##### **(U) Georgia – Atlanta Men Get Prison For Illegally Buying, Smuggling Guns**

(U) Atlanta — Two Atlanta men have been sentenced for illegally buying and trafficking at least three dozen guns from Georgia to Trinidad and Tobago. The US attorney's office in Atlanta says Errol Alfred, known as "Major," was sentenced 24 May to five years in prison. Kerry Fernandez, known as "Trini," was sentenced 19 April to two years and three months. Both had previously pleaded guilty to charges including conspiring to smuggle firearms out of the US Prosecutors say between August 2013 and

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September 2014, Alfred and Fernandez used straw buyers to buy guns. Alfred then hid the guns in shipping barrels to smuggle them to Trinidad, where they were sold.

SOURCE: 30 May 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Kansas – Human Trafficking Victim, Forced to Work 10 Years, Awarded \$8M by Judge**

(U) Kansas City — A woman who was trafficked for 10 years as an unpaid laborer in various cities across the United States has been awarded nearly \$8 million in damages by a federal judge in Kansas, believed to be the largest trafficking-related verdict in US history. Kendra Ross, now 27, said she was victimized by a group originally called the United Nation of Islam. For 10 years, Ross was forced to work in bakeries or restaurants and live in its homes, and was separated from her mother at age 12 and ordered to marry another group member at 20, a judge in Kansas City found. She was also shipped against her will from Kansas City to Atlanta, then to Newark, Harlem, Tennessee and Ohio before escaping from the group at age 21, her lawsuit stated.

SOURCE: 30 May 2018, [SF Gate](#)

**(U) Oregon – California Man Sentenced For Drug Distribution That Ended Up in Oregon**

(U) Portland — Los Angeles man, 41 year-old Francisco Nuno-Urenda, has been sentenced to 17 years in federal prison for his role in a drug trafficking scheme. That scheme brought distribution quantities of methamphetamine, marijuana, cocaine, and heroin into Oregon. According to court documents, Nuno-Urenda was a drug trafficker out of California. Documents further say he would source drugs from Mexico and shipped them throughout the United States. It continues to say Nuno-Urenda supplied multiple drug trafficking organizations, including one that operated in the Portland metropolitan area. Investigators have determined Nuno-Urenda stayed in contact with about 15 suppliers in Mexico.

SOURCE: 30 May 2018, [KTVL News 10](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) United Kingdom – Man Who Urged Prince George Attack Admits to Terror Charges**

(U) London — An Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) supporter who called for others to attack Prince George has admitted a string of terror charges. Husnain Rashid, 32, of Leonard Street in Nelson, Lancashire, brought his trial at Woolwich Crown Court to a halt with a dramatic change of plea. Nearly two weeks into his trial Rashid was re-indicted and pleaded guilty to three counts of engaging in conduct in preparation of terrorist acts. He also admitted one count of encouraging terrorism. Rashid will be sentenced on 28 June at the same court for the offences spanning from October 2016 to April this year.

SOURCE: 31 May 2018, [BBC](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.****(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-874-1100.**

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